

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-15 TRSE-00 /120 R

DRAFTED BY EA/J:RAERICSON:RGD

APPROVED BY EA - MR. SNEIDER

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R 031749Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMCONSUL NAHA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

DOD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 196619

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: BASE CONSOLIDATION

1. IN MEETING SEPT 27 WITH DEPUTY ASST SEC SNEIDER, VISITING DIRGEN AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU OKAWARA RAISED BASE CONSOLIDATION PROBLEM. SNEIDER CONFIRMED OKAWARA'S UNDERSTANDING THAT PLAN FOR FURTHER CONSOLIDATION US BASES OKINAWA IS CURRENTLY UNDER STUDY HERE AND TOLD HIM WE HOPE SHORTLY BE ABLE AUTHORIZE EMBASSY TOKYO DISCUSS IT WITH FONOFF ON TENTATIVE, INFORMAL, EXPLORATORY AND NON-COMMITAL BASIS. SNEIDER SAID, HOWEVER, THAT MANY AMERICAN OFFICIALS DUBIOUS ABOUT WISDOM MOVING RAPIDLY TOWARD NEW BASE CONSOLIDATION PLAN IN LIGHT VERY SLOW PROGRESS BEING MADE ON REALIZATION PREVIOUS PLANS. DISCUSSION THIS SUBJECT OCCUPIED SOME TIME AND FOLLOWED FAMILIAR LINES, IN COURSE OF WHICH OKAWARA MENTIONED DIFFICULTIES SUCH AS MAYOR OF KADE'S REQUEST THAT ANY P-3 AIRCRAFT MOVED TO KADENA BE POSITIONED IN
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SOUTHERN PART OF BASE RATHER THAN IN NORTHERN AREA

NOW PLANNED AND GOVERNOR YARA'S DEMAND FOR 25 PERCENT
CUT ALL U.S. BASES IN OKINAWA.

2. OKAWARA EXPRESSED STRONG DESIRE EARLY ACTION ON
NEW PLAN IN ORDER PERMIT HIM DESCRIBE ITS GENERAL

DIMENSIONS TO DFAA AT MEETING TO BE HELD SHORTLY AFTER
HIS RETURN JAPAN AND THEREBY GIVE THAT AGENCY SOME IDEA
OF WHETHER AND HOW PLAN COULD BE INCLUDED NEXT YEAR'S
BUDGET.

3. THE RELATIONSHIP THIS PLAN TO POSSIBLE SCC MEETING
LATE NOVEMBER AND POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL VI IT THEREAFTER
ALSO DISCUSSED. OKAWARA EXPRESSED CLEAR PREFERENCE GOJ
FOR HOLDING SCC MEETING, AT WHICH PLAN MIGHT BE ANNOUNCED,
BEFORE A POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. HE FELT THAT
WOULD CONTRIBUTE MATERIALLY TO FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR
PRESIDENT'S VISIT. KISSINGER

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